# MINIMUM SEPARATION AREA NOTIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (MSAP)

## **Introduction and Purpose**

The Tourtelot Cleanup Project entails the safe location, investigation and removal of ordnance and explosives (OE), OE scrap and other metallic items. Trained OE safety specialist teams will conduct this process according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) ordnance clearance procedures. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has approved these procedures.

The Corps has performed calculations to establish a Minimum Separation Distance (MSD) that must be maintained between clearance operations and the public. For the Tourtelot Cleanup Project, the MSD has been determined to be 200 feet. The MSD distance will remain constant unless ordnance is found during remediation that would require a recalculation of the MSD to comply with the Corps' established clearance procedures.

An MSD is measured from the outer limits of an OE clearance operation as a radius. This radial distance is applied 360 degrees and forms an area that is controlled and restricted to project personnel during clearance work periods. For purposes of this plan, this area will be known as the Minimum Separation Area (MSA).

## **Minimum Separation Area (MSA)**

A portion of the MSA includes private and public properties that lay outside the project site. This Minimum Separation Area Notification and Implementation Plan (MSAP) addresses the scheduled/pre-planned temporary withdrawal of residents who reside in the MSA when intrusive OE clearance operations are underway. For example, when such work is scheduled to occur in a project area with a MSD of 200 feet, preplanned temporary withdrawal from homes within that MSD will take effect. It is anticipated that affected residents will be required to withdraw from their homes during the daytime (from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) on the scheduled dates. Typically, clearance work will occur only Monday through Friday.

In addition to persons who live within the MSA, the establishment of the MSA may affect other residents in the area, such as residents whose homes aren't affected by the MSA, but whose ability to travel to and from their residences may be impeded by the closure of streets within the MSA. These residents will be addressed as part of this MSAP.

#### **MSA Notification**

The project proponents will undertake a numbers of actions to ensure residents within or affected by the MSA are informed of the temporary withdrawal and have an opportunity to have their questions answered and special needs addressed. Residents whose homes do not fall within the MSA, but whose ability to travel to and from their residences may be impeded by the closure of streets within the MSA, will be included in the MSA notification. This notification will be provided on the time schedule described below. The notices will include a telephone point of contact that can be used in the event an emergency requires a resident whose ability to travel to and from their residents is impeded by the closure of streets within the MSA to leave their home while a MSA is in effect. In an emergency, residents would be

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able to call this number to temporarily halt clearance activities so that they could depart safely. Communications will also be established with public agencies in Benicia. These actions are as follows:

- 1. Approximately 60 days prior to clearance activities and temporary withdrawal, the proponents will distribute a newsletter to residents within or affected by the MSA. The newsletter will provide an overview of the Tourtelot Cleanup Project, describe the requirements for public withdrawal from the MSA and notify residents of the potential hazards associated with clearance activities. It will also provide answers to frequently asked questions, a project map and anticipated schedule and contact information, including a 24-hour information phone line and website address. The newsletter will include a point of contact that residents can use if they need assistance to address such special needs as transportation; child care coordination; boarding of pets; assistance with frail, ill or disabled household members; or temporary accommodations for residents who normally conduct business from home offices.
- 2. Approximately 30 days prior to clearance activities and temporary withdrawal, the proponents will:
  - i) brief the Community Advisory Group, the City of Benicia, the Benicia Fire Department and the Benicia Police Department regarding the designated MSA, the anticipated dates of withdrawal, the addresses falling within or affected by the MSA, and withdrawal procedures;
  - ii) hold a workshop to provide area residents with information regarding clearance activities and the temporary withdrawal. Residents can also use this opportunity to ask questions, provide the project proponents with input, and request assistance with special needs associated with withdrawal;
  - iii) distribute notices with information about the specific anticipated dates and times of the required withdrawal to each address within or affected by the MSA. The notice will include a point of contact and form for reporting special needs.
- 3. Approximately 10 days and 72 hours prior to clearance activities and temporary withdrawal, the proponents will distribute reminder notices to each address within or affected by the applicable MSA. The notices will include the point of contact information to address special needs associated with the temporary withdrawals.
- 4. In the event changes to the schedule are necessary following the 72-hour reminder, residents will be encouraged to call the 24-hour information phone line or check the project website to make sure the planned withdrawal is still on schedule.
- 5. Throughout the period that clearance activities are being conducted, the proponents will regularly update the City of Benicia, Benicia Police Department and Benicia Fire

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Department of the specific areas scheduled to be within the MSA in upcoming activities and of any roads or other public facilities that would be closed during the clearance activities.

6. On the evening before the planned withdrawal, representatives for the project proponents will go door-to-door in the MSA to remind residents about the next day's activities and to address any special needs.

### **Broader Notification**

In addition to the 200 foot MSD recommended by the Corps, DTSC is requiring residents, businesses and schools within the Voluntary Separation Distance (VSD) to be notified of the potential hazards associated with an accidental detonation. The VSD is based upon the Maximum Fragmentation Distance (MFD) for the most probable munition (either 1080 feet or 1181 feet depending on the specific area of the project site and the applicable most probable munition). These distances will remain constant unless ordnance is found during remediation that would require a recalculation of the MSD and MFD distances to comply with the Corps' established clearance procedures. Persons within the area between the MSD and VSD (between 200 feet and 1080 or 1181 feet) will not be required to withdraw, but may voluntarily do so. Persons choosing to withdraw from the VSD will be offered the same support services as persons within or affected by the MSD.

The proponents will inform persons who live in the area between the MSD and VSD of special considerations that may affect them. This includes residents whose homes aren't affected by the MSA, but whose ability to travel to and from their residences may be impeded by the closure of streets within the MSA.

The notifications to residents residing within the broader area will include the following actions:

- 1. Approximately 60 days prior to clearance activities the proponents will distribute a newsletter to addresses within this broader area. The newsletter will provide an overview of the Tourtelot Cleanup Project, describe the requirements for public withdrawal from the MSA, the option of voluntary withdrawal from the MFD, and notify residents of the potential hazards associated with OE clearance activities. It will also provide answers to frequently asked questions, a project map and anticipated schedule and contact information, including a 24-hour information phone line and website address.
- 2. Approximately 10 days prior to clearance activities the proponents will distribute a reminder notice to addresses in the greater area surrounding the MSD. This notice will remind the recipients of the pending clearance work and encourage them to check the 24-hour information phone line and the website for additional information.
- 3. A workshop will be held to provide area residents with information regarding clearance activities and the voluntary withdrawal. Residents can also use this opportunity to ask questions, provide the project proponents with input, and request assistance with special needs associated with withdrawal.

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Matthew Turner Elementary School does not fall within the 200 foot MSD. The school will be included in the broader notification area. The geophysical mapping of the portions of the Project Site nearest the school will help to determine the steps necessary to minimize affects on school operation. The proponents will work with school officials to be sure they are adequately informed about the Tourtelot Cleanup Project, the MSA and the issues affecting the broader notification area, so that they may determine the appropriate response and communicate with parents. The proponents will address any other issues related to the clearance activities that the school officials identify.

Proponents will also contact City of Benicia officials to discuss any issues related to public areas or facilities that are affected by the broader notification area including the community park, walking path and Lake Herman, so that they may determine the appropriate response.

If ordnance were to be found during remediation that requires a recalculation of the MSD distances to comply with Corps' established clearance procedures, a determination will be made as to whether the revised area affects the school or other public areas. If the school were affected by the revised MSD, the proponents would coordinate with school officials to establish a procedure for notifying parents of the activities affecting the school. If other public areas are affected, the proponents will coordinate with City of Benicia officials regarding appropriate actions and notifications.

## **MSA Security**

The proponents' site clearance contractor will employ trained safety personnel to oversee the withdrawal from the MSA and restrict re-entry during clearance work hours. At the beginning of each workday, the assigned personnel will visit each affected residence within the MSA, look for signs of anyone being present and knock on doors. If any unauthorized persons are determined to be within the MSA, they will be asked to depart and clearance work will not begin until they have left the MSA. The safety personnel will also post signs or erect barriers to close affected streets and walkways to restrict unauthorized entry to the MSA. Personnel will be stationed in appropriate locations outside the MSA to monitor activities continuously during the clearance workday. In the event that unauthorized persons enter or are found within the MSA, clearance activities will be halted until the area is cleared.

If unauthorized persons fail to leave the MSA, the Benicia Police Department will be contacted for assistance in clearing the area in accordance with City of Benicia Ordinance #01-02.

## **Hospitality Services During Work Hours**

Residents within the MSA who are required to temporarily withdraw from their residences or residents within the VSD whose choose to voluntarily withdraw during the day may use the services provided by the proponents' Hospitality Center located at the Best Western Heritage Inn. These services will include refreshments and meals, telephones, television and other amenities. In the highly unlikely event that residents are prevented from returning to their homes for the evening, suitable overnight accommodations will be made available to them at the Hospitality Center.

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## **Special Needs**

The proponents will establish a point of contact (community liaison) to address special needs such as transportation; child care coordination; boarding of pets; assistance with frail, ill or disabled household members; temporary accommodations for residents who normally conduct business from residence offices; damage to property caused by a detonation at the project site; and other specials needs identified through the proponents' community notification efforts. Special needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

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